

## Message Text

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ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 OES-07 INR-10 DLOS-09  
CIAE-00 NSAE-00 INT-05 DODE-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 SS-15  
SP-02 NSC-05 EB-08 /075 R

DRAFTED BYL/OES:DACOLSON:MERS  
APPROVED BY L/OES - MARY ELIZABETH HOINKES  
OES/OFA - MR. SCULLY  
INR/RGE - DR. HODGSON  
ARA/MEX - MR. MARTIN (SUBS)  
-----124349 131636Z /14  
P 131536Z APR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 094821

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PLOS, EFIS

SUBJECT: US-MEXICO MARITIME BOUNDARY

REFS: A) STATE 84518; B) MEXICO 5542

1. REF (B) NOTED THAT GOM WOULD GIVE PROMPT REPLY TO PROPOSAL THAT SECRETARIES SIGN MARITIME BOUNDARY AGREEMENT IN EARLY MAY. AS NOTED IN REF (B) TIME IS SHORT. USG DOES NOT WANT TO PRESSURE OR APPEAR TO PRESSURE GOM INTO A MARITIME BOUNDARY TREATY; HOWEVER, SINCE TIME IS SHORT PREPARATIONS MUST BE MADE AND NEGOTIATIONS STARTED IF TEXT IS TO BE FINALIZED IN TIMELY MANNER.

2. DEPT HAS PREPARED USG PROPOSAL FOR A MARITIME BOUNDARY TREATY. IT IS SIMPLE IN FORM, AND REFLECTS AS NEARLY AS POSSIBLE THE EXCHANGE OF NOTES DONE IN 1976. AT THIS  
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TIME TEXT IS BEING CABLED FOR EMBASSY REACTIONS AND FOR EMBASSY TO HAVE ON HAND AS MATTER DEVELOPS.

BEGIN TEXT. TREATY TO ESTABLISH MARITIME BOUNDARIES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES.

DESIROUS OF ESTABLISHING THE MARITIME BOUNDARIES BETWEEN  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES;

TAKING NOTE OF THE DECREE ADDING TO ARTICLE 27 OF THE  
POLITICAL CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES TO  
ESTABLISH AN EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE OF MEXICO OUTSIDE THE  
TERRITORIAL SEA, AND TO THE FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGE-  
MENT ACT OF 1976 ESTABLISHING A FISHERY CONSERVATION ZONE  
OFF THE COAST OF THE UNITED STATES; AND

CONSIDERING THAT THE MARITIME BOUNDARIES TO A DISTANCE OF  
TWELVE NAUTICAL MILES OFF THE COAST OF THE UNITED STATES  
AND THE COAST OF MEXICO HAVE ALREADY BEEN DETERMINED BY  
THE TREATY TO RESOLVE PENDING BOUNDARY DIFFERENCES AND  
MAINTAIN THE RIO GRANDE AND COLORADO RIVER AS THE INTER-  
NATIONAL BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND  
THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES;  
THE TWO GOVERNMENTS HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:  
ARTICLE I

THE MARITIME BOUNDARIES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA AND THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES SHALL BE DETERMINED  
BY GEODETIC LINES CONNECTING THE FOLLOWING COORDINATES:  
IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN:  
LATITUDE (NORTH) LONGITUDE (WEST)  
32 35'22.11" 117 27'49.42"  
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32 37'37.00" 117 49'31.00"  
31 07'58.00" 118 36'18.00"  
30 32'31.20" 121 51'58.37"

IN THE WESTERN GULF OF MEXICO:

LATITUDE (NORTH) LONGITUDE (WEST)  
25 58'30.57" 96 55'27.37"  
26 00'31.00" 96 48'29.00"  
26 00'30.00" 95 39'26.00"  
25 59'48.28" 93 26'42.19"

IN THE EASTERN GULF OF MEXICO:

. -  
LATITUDE (NORTH) LONGITUDE (WEST)  
25 42'13.05" 91 05'24.89"  
25 46'52.00" 90 29'41.00"  
25 41'56.52" 88 23'05.54"

ARTICLE II

THE GEODETIC AND COMPUTATIONAL BASES USED ARE THE CLARKE  
1866 ELLIPSOID, THE 1927 NORTH AMERICAN DATUM, AND THE  
FOLLOWING CHARTS: (LIST RELEVANT CHARTS).

ARTICLE III

NORTH OF THE MARITIME BOUNDARIES ESTABLISHED BY THIS TREATY, MEXICO SHALL NOT, AND SOUTH OF THE MARITIME BOUNDARIES ESTABLISHED BY THIS TREATY, THE UNITED STATES SHALL NOT, FOR ANY PURPOSE, CLAIM OR EXERCISE SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OR JURISDICTION OVER THE WATERS OR SEABED AND SUBSOIL. THE MARITIME BOUNDARIES ESTABLISHED BY THIS TREATY SHALL NOT AFFECT OR PREJUDICE IN ANY MANNER THE POSITIONS OF EITHER PARTY WITH RESPECT TO THE EXTENT OF INTERNAL WATERS, OF THE TERRITORIAL SEA, OF THE HIGH SEAS OR OF SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OR JURISDICTION FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE.

ARTICLE IV

THIS TREATY IS SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
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THE RESPECTIVE CONSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURES OF THE TWO PARTIES AND SHALL ENTER INTO FORCE UPON THE EXCHANGE OF THE INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION.

DONE AT MEXICO CITY, (DATE), IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH, BOTH TEXTS BEING EQUALLY AUTHENTIC.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF      FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
THE UNITED STATES OF      UNITED MEXICAN STATES  
AMERICA. END TEXT.

3. DEPT ALSO WISHES EMBASSY TO HAVE ON HAND THE FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE WHICH COULD BE USED IN LIEU OF ARTICLE III IN ABOVE TEXT IF GOM SO DESIRES. THIS ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE IS SIMILAR IN FORM WITH MARIME BOUNDARY TREATIES USG HAS RECENTLY SIGNED WITH CUBA AND VENEZUELA. THERE IS NO SUBSTANTIVE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE ALTERNATIVE TEXT AND THE TEXT IN PARA 2 ABOVE. BEGIN ALTERNATIVE TEXT TO BE USED IN LIEU OF ARTICLE III IN PARA 2 ABOVE.

BEGIN TEXT.

ARTICLE III

TO THE NORTH OF THE MARITIME BOUNDARIES ESTABLISHED BY THIS TREATY THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES SHALL NOT, AND TO THE SOUTH OF SUCH BOUNDARIES THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA SHALL NOT, FOR ANY PURPOSE, CLAIM OR EXERCISE SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OR JURISDICTION OVER THE WATERS OR SEABED OR SUBSOIL.

ARTICLE IV

THE SOLE PURPOSE OF THIS TREATY IS TO ESTABLISH THE LOCATION OF THE MARITIME BOUNDARIES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE MARITIME BOUNDARIES ESTABLISHED SHALL  
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NOT AFFECT OR PREJUDICE IN ANY MANNER THE POSITIONS OF  
EITHER GOVERNMENT WITH RESPECT TO THE EXTENT OF INTERNAL  
WATERS, OF THE TERRITORIAL SEA, OF THE HIGH SEAS OR OF  
SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OR JURISDICTION FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE.  
END TEXT.

OBVIOUSLY, ARTICLE IV IN PARA 2 ABOVE WOULD BECOME ARTICLE  
V IN ANY EXT USING THE ALTERNAIVE FORMULATION.

4. DEPT WILL HAVE SPANISH TEXTS PREPARED AND WILL SEND  
SEPTTEL AT A LATER DATE.

5. DEPT BELIEVES WE SHOULD WAIT SEVERAL MORE DAYS TO SEE  
IF THERE IS A GOM RESPONSE TO EARLIER APPROACH. HOWEVER,  
IF THERE IS NO RESPONSE BY GOM BY COB MONDAY, APRIL 17,  
DEPT BELIEVES IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR APPROACH BE MADE TO  
GOM INDICATING THAT EMBASSY HAS IN HAND USG PROPOSAL AS  
WELL AS ALTERNATIVE FORMULATION. IF GOM THEN RESPONDS  
FAVORABLY, EMBASSY IS AUTHORIZED TO DELIVER ENGLISH  
VERSION OF TEXT TO GOM INDICATING ITS CLOSE SIMILARITY TO  
EXCHANGE OF NOTES, AND ALSO DELIVER ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE  
INDICATING THAT USG PREPARED TO ACCEPT WHICHEVER FORM GOM  
PREFERS. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TREATY SIGNATURE, WATER BOUNDARIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE094821  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** DACOLSON:MERS  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780159-0407  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780459/aaaabxox.tel  
**Line Count:** 198  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 9e5ba1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN L  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 84518, 78 MEXICO 5542  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 jul 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2973003  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US-MEXICO MARITIME BOUNDARY  
**TAGS:** PBOR, PLOS, EFIS, MX, US  
**To:** MEXICO  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/9e5ba1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
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